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Wagner and Schiller (1866), Michael Rützel's unsuccessful *Isolde* (1893), A. Bessel's faint effort (1895) characterized as "Wagner verbessert," Ernst Eberhard's (1898) worst of all possible productions, and Albert Geiger's *Tristan* (1906), undoubtedly the most important and praiseworthy German *Tristan* drama of modern times. Golther suggests that Matthew Arnold's (1852) excellent *Tristan and Iseult* may possibly have influenced Wagner who was in London in 1855. From a number of other English *Tristans* one reads with keenest interest Golther's review of Swinburne's (1882) *Tristan of Lyonesse*, in which Swinburne is unreservedly praised. Golther has little to say in favor of the French *Tristans* by Armand Silvestre (1897), Georges Chesley (1904), Eddy Marix (1905). Under the heading "Tristanbilder" Golther mentions those of John C. Sargent (1884) as failures, praises however those of Hendrich, Strassen, Engels and Braune. In order to leave nothing unsaid he mentions the marble statuettes of Tristan and Isolde by Zumbusch.

Part nine is an unalloyed glorification of Richard Wagner. The construction of Wagner's *Tristan* has been fully cleared up by the publication (1904) of his letters to Mathilde Wesendonck. Wagner learned Gottfried from the Version of Hermann Kurz. The interesting question is raised as to whether Wagner was influenced by Novalis' *Hymnus an die Nacht*.

The work on the whole betrays at all times thorough, conscientious, conservative scholarship. The author states that he wishes some time to do for *Parzival and the Grail* what he has here done for *Tristan*. *Quod felix faustumque sit!*

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GERMAN LITERATURE IN AMERICA.

Parke Godwin and the Translation of Zschokke's Tales. By JOHN PRESTON HOSKINS. Publications of the Modern Language Association of America. Vol. xx, No. 2, for June, 1905. Pp. 205-304.

An excellent study in a field that is attracting considerable attention at the present time, and

presented in a clear, readable fashion. The preliminary sketch of the introduction of German literature in America is brief, but the conclusions drawn are undoubtedly correct. And the writer has happily avoided an error that is frequently made in studies of this character, that of grossly exaggerating the importance and influence of the subject of his researches.

From material gathered in a study of the American periodical literature,¹ I would offer a few suggestions and a brief appendix to Mr. Hoskins' bibliography of translations from Zschokke.

The influence of Professor Blättermann in the South is scarcely a matter of question. An examination of the *Virginia Literary Museum*, a scholarly and belletristic journal published by the University of Virginia during his professorship, shows how great was the activity he displayed and inspired in the department of German literature, and the frequency with which this journal is cited by the other magazines, particularly in the South, is sufficient evidence of the scope of this influence. But the work of Francis Lieber in South Carolina from 1835 to 1857 should also be taken into account in considering the question of German influence in the South. Also that of Mrs. Ellet, Mary Elizabeth Lee and Professor C. J. Hademann, who did much translating for the magazines.

Mr. Hoskins inadvertently observes that the *Democratic Review* (Washington, D. C.) began publishing short poems from the German as early as 1835, whereas, in fact, the first number of that periodical was not issued until October, 1837. And Mrs. Ellet's free rendition of Tieck's "*Klausenburg*" appeared in the same journal for 1844, not 1845, as stated.

To the "Articles on Zschokke," listed by Mr. Hoskins from the magazines, should be added a biographical sketch in the form of a review of the autobiography "*Selbstschau*," republished from the *London Critic* in *Littell's Living Age* (Boston), VIII, 482, 1845.

¹ *German Literature in American Magazines prior to 1846. Bulletin of the University of Wisconsin*, 1907. The writer hopes that especially the reference lists of this study may prove useful to those engaged in investigations similar in character to that of Mr. Hoskins.

Besides the translations of tales from Zschokke given by Mr. Hoskins, I find the following eleven numbers in the American magazines before 1846. Most of them are contained in periodicals not examined by him. Four, however, are from the *Southern Literary Messenger*, which he cites. There are nine tales in all, of which only two were known to him as having appeared in America in translation. All of them are complete except "*The Clairvoyante*," which is an extract from "*Die Verklärungen*," and "*The Hole in the Sleeve*," which is condensed :

1834. *The Leg (Das Bein)*. Given as "From the German," but not accredited to Zschokke. *Magnolia*; or, *Literary Tablet*, New York, I, 213.
1838. *The Leg (Das Bein)*. A different translation from the above, but also given as "From the German," and not accredited to Zschokke. *Bentley's Miscellany* (American reprint), New York, III, 480.
1839. *The Evening before the Wedding (Der Abend vor der Hochzeit)*. Signed M. L. P. Knickerbocker, New York, XIII, 329.
1839. *The Transfigured (Die Verklärungen)*. An editorial note says the translator is "a lady of Pennsylvania." *Southern Literary Messenger*, Richmond, v, 225.
1842. *The Clairvoyante* (from *Die Verklärungen*). *Magnolia*; or, *Southern Apalachian*, Charleston. New Series, I, 74, 152.
1844. *The Hole in the Sleeve. A Novellette*. By Mrs. Ellet. "The following story is rather condensed than translated from one of Zschokke's tales (*Das Loch im Aermel*). Some liberties have also been taken with it." *Godey's Lady's Book*, Philadelphia, XXVIII, 222.
1844. *The Betrothal of Mr. Quint (Herrn Quints Verlobung)*. From the German of Zschokke. By Miss W. Barrington. *Graham's Magazine*, Philadelphia, XXIV, 88, 126, 172.
1845. *The Warlike Adventures of a Peaceful Man (Die kriegerischen Abenteuer eines Friedfertigen)*. From the German, by Mary E. Lee. *Godey's Lady's Book*, Philadelphia, XXX, 157, 217.
1845. *Walpurgis Night; or, The First Night in May (Die Walpurgisnacht)*. Translated from the German of Zschokke. By Mary E. Lee. *Southern Literary Messenger*, Richmond, XI, 267.
1845. *Slight Causes (Kleine Ursachen)*. From the German of Zschokke. By J. D. McPherson. *Southern Literary Messenger*, Richmond, XI, 402.
1845. *Five Eras in a Woman's Life (Die weiblichen Stufenjahre)*. From the German of Zschokke. (Signed) Mary E. Lee, Charleston, S. C. *Southern Literary Messenger*, Richmond, XI, 633.

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CHAUCER'S *Prologue* 256.

To the Editors of *Mod. Lang. Notes*.

SIRS:—As to "His purchas was wel bettre than his rente" (Chaucer's *Prologue* 256), Professor Child used to tell his classes, something more than twenty-five years ago, that this was an old French proverb, equivalent to "His 'pickings up' were better than what he got regularly, i. e., than his income." Besides the oft-cited passage from the *Roman de la Rose*, we may consider the proverbial tone of a line in Froissart's *Joli Buisson*:—"S'il n'a rente, s'a il pourchas" (v. 2826). There must be many examples. That quoted by Professor Greenlaw from the Towneley plays (*M. L. N.*, XXIII, 144) shows the popularity of the proverb in England.

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